

Sexual Sin
Biblical Soul-Care Workshops

Week 8
Session 3

THE GOSPEL INSTITUTE

2

Definition of Sin

1. God's standard for man is holiness. "Be ye holy, for I am holy..." (Lev.19:2; Matt. 5:48)
2. The failure to meet God's holy standard is sin. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23) "For there is no man that sinneth⁶ not" (1 Ki. 8:46)
3. Sin is breaking any commandment of God. "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth¹ also the law: for sin is the transgression² of the law." (1 Jn. 3:4)
4. "All unrighteousness is sin." (1 Jn. 5:17)

3

Four Ways to Sin

4

Trials vs. Temptations

1. Ja. 1:1-4 Trials come from God-orchestrated events to _____.
2. Our focus in trials is to be on God's purpose in the trial _____.
3. We are to persevere in trial by asking God for wisdom and by focusing on the rewards.
4. A trial can lead to triumph or temptation...Temptations can come from external or internal sources.

5

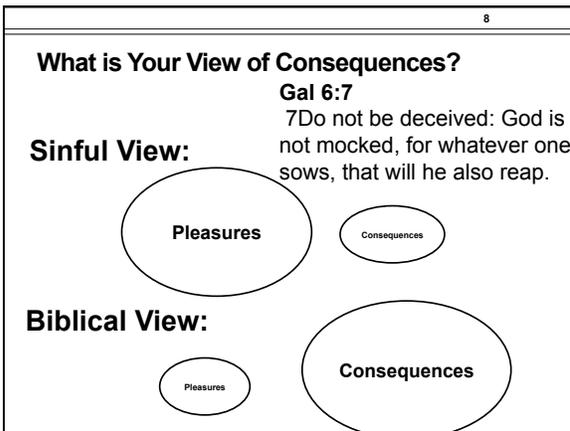
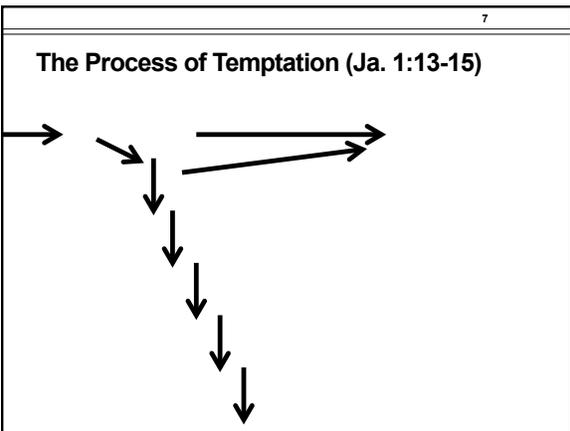
Trials May Lead to Temptation

- Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. (Ja. 1:12-15)

6

Definition of Temptation

1. Temptation is a solicitation to evil or sin.
2. Temptations are our responsibility to resist, reject and overcome. (2 Cor. 5:10)
3. Temptation is a _____ to pursue a desire. (we do what we do, because we want what we want).
4. Although temptations may begin externally, the process cannot continue without our _____ to continue the progression.



9

Sin and Deception

1. The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; ... (Jer. 17:9)
2. to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, (Eph. 4:22)
3. ¹²Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Heb. 3:12-13)

10

Defining Sexual Sin

Love: other-focused, selfless giving

1. Sexual sin is any attitude, view or participation in sex outside of the marriage relationship.

2. The fuel for sexual sin is the desire for that which is forbidden.

3. Overcoming sexual sin begins with transformed desires and views of sex.

Vows: Covenant Commitment

Expression of the heart-worship

One-flesh unity, intimacy

11

Defining Sexual Sin

Sinful Desires

1. Sex is sinful when pleasures are sought apart from mutual consent and involvement of a husband and wife.
2. "But I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members." (Rom. 7:23)
3. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. (Gal. 5:17)

12

Gospel Provides Hope

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Heb. 4:15-16)

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. (Col. 2:13-14)

13

Power to Change Desires

1 Cor. 6:9-20

⁴that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, (1 Thess. 4:4)

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. (Gal. 5:16)

14

Power to Change Desires

1. Lust for immediate gratification
 - a. Without commitment
 - b. Without investing in intimate relationships
 - c. Without giving and serving another
2. Fear of man/Pride
 - a. Lust for approval of others
 - b. Desire to be attractive
3. Lust for control
 - a. Manipulating using others

15

The Gospel Provides Power to Change

1. Lust to be God
 - a. Center of your universe
 - b. No consequences
 - c. No cause and effect
 - d. No rules

16

Pursuing Obedience

1. Cultivate a cross-centered life, beginning with a biblical view):
 - a. Embrace a biblical view of God
 - b. The cross covers my sin
 - c. The cross motivates me to love and obedience
 - d. The cross is relevant to my everyday life
 - e. The cross is something I really should think about
 - f. *"Nothing but Christ should master us"*
 - g. *"The gospel, however, slays sin at its root point and thereby nullifies sin's power over me"* Milton Vincent, *A Gospel Primer*, p. 19

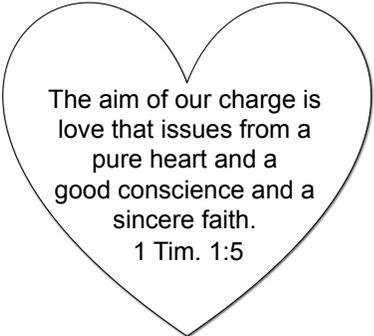
17

Pursuing Obedience

2. Sexual sin can be prevented and/or overcome through Christ:
 - a. Not even a hint of sexual immorality (Eph. 5:3)
 - b. Connect my sin to the cross (Col. 2:14)
 - c. Be prepared for radical amputation (Mt. 5:29)
 - d. Pursue restoration:
 - i. Repentance (Godly, not worldly)
 - ii. Confession
 - iii. Seek forgiveness
 - e. Guard my heart and mind (Pr. 4:23; Ps. 19:14)
 - f. Accountability (Ja. 5:16)

18

Pursuing Purity



The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

1 Tim. 1:5